Minutes

Citizen's District Council Meeting City of Muskegon CDBG Conference Room 203 Muskegon, Michigan March 6, 2018

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Veania Coleman at 5:35 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Roll call was taken by Samantha Pulos-Porter, and a quorum was present.

- > Present:
 - ✓ Ken Johnson Commissioner
 - ✓ Jeremy Lenertz
 - ✓ Carrie Johnson
 - ✓ Veania Coleman
 - ✓ Poppy Sias-Hernandez
- > Absent:
 - ✓ Scott Banninga
 - ✓ Kim Burr
- > Excused:
 - ✓ Tom Pastoor
- > Staff Present:
 - ✓ Oneata Bailey
 - ✓ Samantha Pulos-Porter

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion to approve the minutes, by Jeremy Lenertz, from February 6, 2018; Carrie Johnson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

Citizens' Participation Plan – Oneata gave a summary of the purpose and contents and the plan. She described that changes made to the plan have to go out for citizen comment before being approved by the City Commission.

New Members – Poppy Sias-Hernandez introduced herself and her connection with Muskegon. She described involvement with the community through health care. She is also running for the 34th District Senate. She expressed frustration with the process of advocating in Lansing for what we need locally and not being heard.

CDBG – new changes covered in February's CDC Meeting were brought to our City Commission and approved. CNS has started handing out and processing applications with the new changes. CDC Members expressed their feeling of accomplishment at February's meeting working through the new program changes.

HUD Income Limits – CNS is checking daily for 2018 Income Limits that are used to determine if citizens qualify for their programs.

NEW BUSINESS:

Annual Action Plan – Oneata described this as being the time of year to change our programs or how we spend our money. The Action Plan has to be presented to the public annually for their comment. The CDC will discuss their thoughts on the Action Plan and add them prior to submission. CNS currently does not have a budget but continues to plan as much as possible for the next year. Vice-Chair Coleman asked when the budget number will be available, Oneata explained that the CDC will get the information when CNS gets the information from HUD.

Homebuyers Program -- a small group of realtors and lenders will meet with CNS staff in March. Changes that may need to be made to the program will be discussed. The program has slowed down significantly since the beginning. Buyers can get a conditional approval letter based solely on the qualification of income. The approval is good for 6 month, as is the required homebuyer education class certificate received upon completion of the class.

STAFF REPORTS:

• 1350 EASTWOOD

Rehab is complete. Open house was held and successful. The house appraised for \$160,000. Realtor is Kay Pittman through Greenridge Realty.

- 1025 E Forest Rehab is being awarded and going to the Commission for approval.
- **1015 E Forest** CNS also purchased this house and will be rehabbing the property. Lead and asbestos inspections are being scheduled and the property will be going out for bid, most likely in the beginning of April.

ADJOURN:

Carrie Johnson motioned to adjourn the meeting, Poppy Sias-Hernandez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting date is: April 3, 2018.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Advertising for CNS' programs was discussed. CNS can put information out on social media and through neighborhood associations. Mlive sometimes picks up the story after it is posted.